**MICHAEL FROST TALK**

Love the people of your community by knowing them. Be among them and alert them to the reign of God.

1. **STRUCTURES** - Read the structure - Who are the people?
   1. What structures exist here and what are they built for
   2. What is their purpose
   3. Who designed them and who paid for it
   4. Old, new, well kept, run down, rentals, owned, businesses, third spaces?
   5. Are there fences or barriers to certain parts of the community?

1. **SIGNS** – Read the signs.
2. Bill boards, public art, graffiti, illegal art, advertising (what kind? What are they selling?)
3. What are the messages
4. Does this community value beauty, art? What are their values? What’s important to them?
5. “Listen to your patients. Their broken bodies are telling you how to heal them.”
6. **SPACE** – What are the open spaces in this place?
   1. Where do people congregate?
   2. Parks, pubs, restaurants, playgrounds, trails, etc.
   3. Do people talk to one another in these spaces? Do people connect here or is it more private space?
   4. What does it mean for us to practice hospitality in this space?
7. **SOCIAL INTERACTIONS** – What kind of social interactions happen in this place?
   1. How do people engage in social interactions?
   2. Where do people share ideas with each other? Are there debates or forums?
   3. Where are these gatherings held?
   4. Do strangers and neighbours talk with one another? If so, where and how?
   5. What’s the demographic? Locals? Visitors?
8. **SPIRITUAL LIFE** –
9. Who are the ministers?
10. What are the congregations?
11. Are these faith communities made up of locals or folks who drive in?
12. Are these churches flourishing or diminishing?
13. Are there other religious communities? Who are the ‘spiritual’ leaders?
14. Are there people exploring other alternative spiritualties? Yoga? Mindfulness?
15. **STORY** – Learn the story of your neighbourhood?
16. Where did it get its name?
17. What’s the history?
18. Who built it and why?
19. How does the community organize itself? How do things operate locally?
20. What were the early lifestyles and values that still resonate?